

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application:)	
)	
Lim et al.)	Before the Examiner
)	
Serial No. New Application)	Unknown
)	
Filed Herewith)	
)	
INSTRUMENTS AND METHODS FOR)	Atty Docket No. 4002-3305/PC902.00
MINIMALLY INVASIVE SPINAL)	
STABILIZATION)	January 30, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure embodied in 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and 1.98,
Applicant wishes to bring to the attention of the Examiner the items of information listed
on the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant. This information has
not been previously submitted in this application, and has not been heretofore cited by the
examiner. Copies of the non-U.S. Patent references are enclosed herewith.

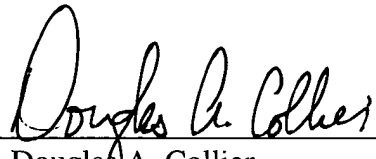
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Douglas A. Collier

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, prior art or material to the patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

This Statement is being submitted with the filing of the application and before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, it is believed that no fee is required for consideration of the submitted items. Should any fee be required, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Douglas A. Collier
Reg. No. 43,556
Woodard, Emhardt, Moriarty,
McNett & Henry, LLP
Bank one Center/Tower
111 Monument Circle, Suite 3700
Indianapolis, IN 46204-5137
(317) 634-3456

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	New Application
				Filing Date	Herewith
				First Named Inventor	Lim
				Group Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	4002-3305/PC902.00

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Application of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	1	US-4,411,259	10/1983	Drummond	
	2	US-5,180,393	01/1993	Commarmond	
	3	US-5,540,688	07/1996	Navas	
	4	US-5,569,248	10/1996	Mathews	
	5	US-5,697,977	12/1997	Pisharodi	
	6	US-5,704,936	01/1998	Mazel	
	7	US-5,720,751	02/1998	Jackson	
	8	US-5,910,141	06/1999	Morrison et al.	
	9	US-5,961,516	10/1999	Graf	
	10	US-6,123,707	09/2000	Wagner	
	11	US-6,159,212	12/2000	Schoedinger, III et al.	
	12	US-6,235,028	05/2001	Brumfield	
	13	US-6,267,764	07/2001	Elberg	
	14	US-6,299,616	09/2001	Beger	
	15	US-6,440,133	08/2002	Beale et al.	
	16	US-6,530,929	03/2003	Justis et al.	

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Application of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁴
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	17	WO 01/49192	07-12-2001			
	18	EP 0 669 109 B!	08-30-1995		pp.6, 8-10	
	19	DE 42 38 339 A!	05-19-1994		Translation enclosed	
	20	DE 100 27 988 A1	10-01-2002		Translation enclosed	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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